GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:303
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2016
Common Curriculum
Chavda Shri Vinod;Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that State Education Boards and other agencies/Institutions have different curriculum at school level, if so, the rationale thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce a common curriculum in Central Board of Secondary Education, the State Boards, the National Institute of Open Schooling and the Indian School Certificate Examinations Board and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Government have received suggestions from various quarters to close the State Education Boards at primary, secondary and higher secondary levels and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the follow-up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 303 ASKED BY SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN AND SHRI VINOD LAKHAMASHI CHAVDA REGARDING 'COMMON CURRICULUM' FOR ANSWER ON 08.08.2016.

(a) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 recommends that the national system of education will be based on a National Curriculum Framework (NCF), which contains a common core along with other components which are flexible. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) sets the guidelines and direction for the development of syllabi and textbooks at all the school stages. As a follow up to the NCF, model curriculum, syllabi, text-books and other supplementary material are developed by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs) and State Education Boards either adopt or adapt NCERT's model syllabi and textbooks or develop their own syllabi and textbooks based on NCF, so as to suit the State-specific needs, and to cater to the diversity in the country across States in culture, language and topography.
(b) No, Madam. Multiplicity of curricula and educational resources are desirable as the uniform syllabus across nation does not take into account the local contexts, culture and language. However, the National Policy on education proposed a national framework of curriculum with a common core of values that includes history of India's freedom movement, the constitutional obligations and other content essential to nurture a national identity. These elements are designed to promote values such as India's common cultural heritage, egalitarianism, democracy, secularism, gender equality, protection of environment, removal of social barriers, promotion of small family norms and inculcation of scientific temper.
(c) No, Madam.
(d) Does not arise.
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